

Appln No. 10/758,985
Amdt date January 9, 2009
Reply to Office action of July 9, 2008

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is requested.

Claims 12 to 22 have been canceled to expedite prosecution.

The Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter is noted and appreciated.

The present response includes a Terminal Disclaimer to Obviate Double Patenting Rejections over U.S. Patents 6,863,851 and 6,398,999.

It is submitted that claims 1 to 8 and 23 to 25 are now in condition for allowance by virtue of the terminal disclaimer which overcomes the only ground of rejection for these claims.

Claims 9 to 11 are indicated as allowable.

In addition to Applicant's prior applications which issued as U.S. Patents 6,863,851 and 6,398,999, Applicant also calls the Office's attention to related applications, Serial No. 10/160,395, filed May 31, 2002, and Serial No. 10/306,792, filed November 27, 2002, identified in the attached Notice of Related Applications.

In view of this response, it is believed that claims 1 to 8 and 23 to 25 are now in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

On the other hand, in the event issues arise as a result of filing this response, Applicant requests that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney to expedite allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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WGM/jb

Attachment: Notice of Related Applications

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